



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

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May 1, 2017

Hon. Jim Beall
Member of the Senate
State Capitol, Room 2082
Sacramento, California 95814

Subject: Senate Bill 545 (Beall), as amended March 20, 2017 – Support

Dear Senator Beall:

The Judicial Council is pleased to support SB 545, which authorizes a court to order a person convicted of a DUI to enroll and participate in, and successfully complete, a qualified “24/7 Sobriety program,” as defined, as a condition of probation, parole, sentence, or work permit, if the program is available and deemed appropriate, and the person committed the crime within 10 years of one or more separate crimes described above that resulted in a conviction.

The Judicial Council supports SB 545 because it enhances judicial discretion by providing courts with another alternative to sentencing in DUI cases. The council believes that 24/7 monitoring programs, which require a person in the program to abstain from alcohol and to submit to frequent testing for alcohol and controlled substances are an effective tool for reducing recidivism in individuals convicted of DUIs. Moreover, by requiring the methodology for the program to be “evidence-based,” SB 545 is consistent with other programs designed to reduce recidivism.

In supporting SB 545, the council urges that funding be made available to ensure that all eligible individuals are able to participate in those programs, and not just those who are able to pay for

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the costs of 24/7 sobriety monitoring programs, to ensure full and equal access to the programs for all eligible individuals.

For these reasons, the Judicial Council is pleased to support SB 545.

Sincerely,

Mailed on May 3, 2017

Sharon Reilly

Attorney

SR/yc-s

cc: Mr. Daniel Seeman, Deputy Legislative Affairs Secretary, Office of the Governor

Mr. Martin Hoshino, Administrative Director, Judicial Council of California